IRAC-IR&DC-11/75 28 August 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR THE INTELLIGENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

SUBJECT: Imagery Transform Working Group Report

- 1. Subject report is forwarded for the members' consideration and comments. The report will be tabled as an agenda item at the 9 September Council meeting.
- 2. The report recommends several actions for R&D emphasis. Some recommendations entail increased level of effort among certain organizations. Members are also requested to comment on the implementation aspects of the candidate courses of action recommended.

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Attachment as stated

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NOTE FOR THE DIRECTOR

- 1. As you will recall, you tentatively agreed at the August IRAC to provide OMB an interim report (early November) identifying the major FY 1977 issues, the range of options, and cost implications. The final NFIP would be submitted in early December. OMB is now pressing to accelerate the ExComs into late October (they are usually held in late November, but will probably be advanced to early-mid November this year, in line with the revised overall Defense budget schedule).
- 2. Neither ASD(I) nor the program managers are anxious to move these meetings into late October. Although from a purely mechanical/ timing standpoint, a late October date could probably be met; albeit with some strain on the program managers' part. The major objection appears to be some loss of managerial flexibility within the DoD process that these programs have enjoyed over the years (by being somewhat out of phase with the normal Defense budgetary decisions, their resource requirements are additive to the totals, and not subject to service tradeoff considerations).
- 3. Another consideration-one which is purely "imagery," but nonetheless is a real-world consideration--is the extent to which we appear to outsiders to be aligning ourselves with one or the other opposing camps, i.e., OMB or Defense.
- The real question from our standpoint is what you intended to provide OMB in the interim report. If, as the minutes of the August IRAC meeting indicate, you simply intended the report to identify and size the major issues, then there is no compelling reason for advancing the ExComs. We will have a fairly good handle on the issues and options by late October; the only thing lacking will be the decisions. If, on the other hand, you intended to provide some more definitive overall recommendations and resource levels, decisions are necessary; which means the ExComs would have to be advanced.

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5.	We will be meeting with ASD(I) and OMB representatives in the ple of days to layout our overall strategy for the upcoming budget ple of days to layout our overall strategy for the upcoming budget
next cou review.	Thus, it would be helpful if we could have your views on:
·	a. The scope of the interim report to OMB:
	size major issues
	provide recommendations
	b. Timing of ExCom meetings:
	hold as currently planned
	accelerate into late October.
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